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Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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53
ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 NEA-10 ISO-00 USIA-15 /038 W
---------- 028828
P R 211407Z OCT 76
FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8535
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MASERU

UNCLAS TANANARIVE 1699

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: GATEMOUTH BROWN

1. GATEMOUTH BROWN AND THE GATE'S EXPRESS ENDED THEIR TOUR HERE WITH WILDLY SUCCESSFUL SELL-OUT PUBLIC CONCERTS AND A WORKSHOP ARRANGED DUE TO PUBLIC DEMAND. BOTH CONCERTS DREW AN ASSORTMENT OF UNIVERSITY AND SECONDARY YOUTH, DIPLOMATS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND THEIR FAMILIES AND MALAGASY FROM EVERY CONCEIVABLE PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND TO THE DOWNTOWN KANTO THEATER. GATEMOUTH'S MUSIC REACHED THEM ALL, AND BOTH AUDIENCES (TOTALLING 1,800) ENTHUSIASTICALLY APPLAUDED HIS EFFORTS FROM THE FIRST TO THE LAST. THE FRANCOPHONE AUDIENCES EVEN RESPONDED TO BROWN'S ENGLISH SOLILOQUIES, WHICH PUNCTUATE HIS PERFORMANCES.

2. THE GROUP'S APPEAL HAD SPREAD THE WORD AROUND TANANARIVE SO WIDELY THAT AT HIS LAST PERFORMANCE, A CROWD OF OVER 100 YOUTHS OUTSIDE TRIED TO FORCE THEIR WAY INTO THE PACKED THEATER THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE SHOW.

3. THE WORKSHOP GIVEN BY GATEMOUTH BROWN DREW 40 UNI-
VERSITY STUDENTS, PROFESSORS, AND MUSICIANS. THE GUITAR-
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IST DEMONSTRATED VARIOUS MUSICAL MODES ON HIS INSTRUMENT

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AND HELD A LIVELY DISC5*SION WITH HIS MOSTLY ENGLISH
SPEAKING AUDIENCE ON HOW VARIUOS TYPES OF AMERICAN MUSIC
RELATED TO EACH OTHER.

4. WHILE GATEMOUTH DESERVEDLY ATTRACTS THE LION'S SHARE
OF PUBLICITY, HIS BACK-UP BAND IS A GROUP OF TRULY TALENTED
MUSICIANS, EACH QUITE CAPABLE OF HOLDING HIS OWN ON HIS
INSTRUMENTS. WHILE YOUNG, THEY ARE VERY SERIOUS AND THUS
GRATIFYING TO WORK WITH. ALTOGETHER THEY WERE AN ATTRACTION
THAT TANANARIVE WILL BE TALKING ABOUT FOR A LONG TIME TO
COME.
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